Rome Sept 14. 1864

My dear Tom

Sad, sad! that I should have left
so dear brother without any answer so
long, but I need not assure him that no
inclination was wanted — at times I
am not so much engaged in actual
business as I am deeply interested with
the affairs of Italy & so find it difficult
to take up any thing else even my painting
languishes but we shall soon flourishing
which I know will please you, in fine
health, spirits & full of "devil" for anything
Maria greeted me with sad news
of poor Charles having a Carbuncle &
fear a return of your old enemy, ph
when she wrote you were better & he

was well &c I wd hope & hear a real
good account of you & that you are just
what I would like you to be

I am happy in the cheering company
of my dear child Eleanor who I feel
with an old womens head is a great
service & consolation to me - She has
stood the heat well, indeed been always
in excellent health & spirits & the whole
summer in Rome, but I would tell you
that my rooms are so high & large that
no heat need incommode us or does

I have also had a slight touch of your
enemy in my left foot which made me
limp for awhile, nor is it quite gone for
I could not take my usual long walks
indeed I have no occasion or even time

I am rejoiced to hear of my success
altho my enemies try to crush me every

now & then for they never see how Rome suits me & I suit it — Also the Italian Constitute flourishes in my hands, difficult as it is — The King which did me the honour to grant me his Royal Villa at Frascati (12 miles from Rome) where if Eleanor had wanted a change of air, would have been pleasant, but we had no need of it — so I have the great compliment with the trouble prevented removal. —

Walter tells me there are all kinds of slander against me in London at times how nice that I don't know it at this distance — You'd be amazed if you could know & see the great power I have got here in Italy, you'd hardly know your poor brother Joe — Yesterday in an affair the whole Police was in an instant at my command, telegraphs & all & during the day I ruled despotically & succeeded

made for myself—

It will delight me to receive a letter from you & direct to my Son Walter Privy Council office for me, under cover to him

Be sure you tell me all your news bad & good, your dear wife & your sons particularly Charley—

My Photographs I have never yet had or allowed to be done, but some day may & I will send it you in my state dress sword & hat, you would not know me, for I don't know myself—Do you remember that I date my good fortune from the moment you called me "Joseph" at dear Marcias

My love to all your loving Brother

(in haste) Joe